

Message Text

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43

ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OIC-02 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGR-05

AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAL-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /158 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5540

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, SP

SUBJ: SECOND SESSION - LOS CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 99357

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED ISSUE OF SECOND SESSION OF LOS CONFERENCE WITH DIRECTOR OF MARITIME AFFAIRS IN MFA APRIL 29. DIRECTOR WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MEMBER OF GOS DELEGATION IN NEW YORK WHO HAD RETURNED TO MADRID FOUR DAYS AGO.

2. EMBOFF LEFT A MEMORANDUM WITH TALKING POINTS IN REFTEL WITH DIRECTOR AFTER DISCUSSING THEM AT LENGTH. IN THEIR RESPONSE, THE MFA OFFICIALS SAID THAT SPAIN WOULD NOT OPPOSE THE HOLDING OF AN ADDITIONAL LOS CONFERENCE THIS SUMMER, BUT WOULD NOT BE AN ACTIVE SUPPORTER OF SUCH A MEETING. IN THEIR VIEW, ONLY A DOZEN OR SO NATIONS WITH WELL BRIEFED DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING SPAIN, WERE IN A POSITION TO DIGEST THE WORK OF THE CURRENT LOS CONFERENCE

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AND BE PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE AGAIN WITHIN TWO MONTHS. THE GREAT

MAJORITY OF THE 156 PARTICIPATING NATIONS WOULD NEED MORE TIME TO STUDY NEW DRAFTS CURRENTLY BEING PREPARED IN NEW YORK. MOREOVER, THESE PREDOMINATLY UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES ALREADY OBJECT TO THE PRESSURES OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WITH TRADITIONAL MARITIME INTERESTS, TO SPEED UP THE CONCLUSION OF THE LOS CONFERENCE. MFA OFFICIALS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SPAIN DEPENDS ON THE GOOD WILL OF MANY OF THE UNDERVELOPED COUNTRIES TO SUPPORT KEY SPANISH POSITIONS IN THE LOS, E.G., STRAITS AND ARCHIPELAGOS.

3. MFA OFFICIALS ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THEY HAD A FEELING THAT PART OF THE INITIATIVE FOR A SPECIAL SUMMER SESSION STEMMED FROM THE DESIRE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LOS CONFERENCE TO TERMINATE THE WORK PRIOR TO THE UNGA FOR WHICH HE WILL ACT AS PRESIDENT AS WELL. IN THEIR VIEW -- ALLEGEDLY SHARED BY OTHER LOS DELEGATIONS -- IT IS PROBABLY UNWISE TO PRECIPITATE THE CONCLUSION OF SUCH AN IMPORTANT CONFERENCE.
STABLER

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